The invention of the present Application as recited in claim 13 is an electronic purse system having a double-structured purse. The double-structured purse has an IC card; a first terminal group which can transfer money to the IC card, wherein each terminal in the first group includes a first ciphering/deciphering unit which performs ciphering/deciphering of information relating to money utilizing a code number; the second terminal group which can transfer money to the IC card, wherein each terminal in the second group does not perform ciphering/deciphering of the information related to the money; and the IC card, including (a) a first purse, (b) a second purse, and (c) a second ciphering/deciphering unit for ciphering/deciphering of the information related to money obtained from one of the terminals in the first terminal group utilizing the code number, wherein, when making payment from the first purse, information relating to the money transferred between the first purse and the one terminal of the first terminal group after ciphering of the information in the first and second ciphering/deciphering units in the IC card and in the terminal of the first terminal group, and wherein, when making payment from the second purse, the information related to the money is transferred between the second purse and one of the terminals of the second terminal group without ciphering of the information.

The invention of the present Application as recited in claim 14 is an IC card applicable to an electronic purse system having a double-structure purse. The electronic purse system has a first purse for storing a first amount of money therein; a second purse for storing a second amount of money therein; and a first ciphering/deciphering means for ciphering/deciphering of information relating to money obtained from a first terminal having a second ciphering/deciphering unit and utilizing a code number, wherein, when making a payment from the first purse, information is transferred between the first purse and the first terminal after ciphering of the information in the first and second ciphering/deciphering units in the IC card and in the first terminal, and wherein, when

making a payment from the second purse, information is transferred between the second purse and the second terminal without ciphering of the information.

An advantage of the invention of the present Application is that the IC card contains two purses. One purse performs ciphering/deciphering before permitting a transaction, and the other purse does not perform any ciphering/deciphering. Therefore, the security levels for each of the purses are different. The first purse is secure and the second purse is easily accessed.

Yashida discloses a financial transaction processing system using an integrated circuit card device. The card device has information relating to multiple banks and transfers information through a smart-card 6 shown in Fig. 2 of Yashida through a terminal 5. As discussed in column 6, lines 12-27, all information goes through terminal 5 and all data is transferred through contact 5(b) used for communicating between the IC card and the terminal.

Wessin et. al discloses an intelligent portable interactive personal data system. As discussed in column 4, lines 24-34, the card disclosed in Wessin et al. can be programmed to have any level of security.

Reed discloses an electronic funds transfer at pont of sale card. On page 268, Reed discloses a data encryption standard which could be used to create high security cards using PIN numbers. The passage goes on to state that a predominant method of encryption is a data-encryption standard which is a very powerful and simple system to use.

Cordonnier discloses smart cards which are used by many different vendors. Cordonnier discloses that each smart card could have different levels of encryption levels which help with security.

Yoshida, Wessin et al., Reed, and Cordonnier either alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest the combinations of limitations of:

1. A first terminal group which can transfer money to the IC card, wherein each terminal in the first group includes a first cyphering/decyphering unit which performs cyphering/decyphering of information relating to money utilizing a code number; and

2. A second terminal group which can transfer money to the IC card, wherein each terminal in the second group does not perform cyphering/decyphering of the information related to money,

as recited in claims 13 and 14 of the present Application. At best the combination of cited prior art discloses a single terminal group connected to a single purse which transfers money through using a cyphering/decyphering unit. For example, although Yashida discloses an IC card having multiple bank accounts, all the bank accounts are accessed through a single terminal having a set security level. Therefore, the multiple bank accounts have the same security level. Therefore, the combination of the cited prior art fails to disclose a first and second terminal group having <u>different</u> security levels where the first terminal group connected to a first purse transfers money with cyphering/decyphering and a second terminal group connected to a second purse which transfers money without ciphering/deciphering. In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the cited prior art references, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest the limitation of a second terminal group which can transfer money to the IC card wherein each terminal in the second group does not perform ciphering/deciphering of the information related to the money as recited in the claims to the present Application. The advantage of this claim limitation being that each purse can have a different security level access or even no security level access as recited in the claims of the present application. Therefore, the money available in the second purse would be more readily accessible than the money available in the first terminal group. None of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest these claimed limitations or advantages.

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the Application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the Application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the Application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, along with any additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC

Gregory B. Kang
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 45,273

Atty. Docket No.: 108272-08002
1050 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6354

GBK:boa